

Provisional Vital Statistics for March 2009

Live births decreased in March as 6,495 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,725 in March 2008. Cumulative births for the 3- and 12-month periods ending with March also decreased. January-March births decreased by 6.2 percent.

Deaths decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the first third of the year, deaths decreased by more than 15 percent.

The **Natural increase** in March was 1,882 (6,495 births minus 4,613 deaths). The natural increase rose for January-March, but decreased for the 12 months ending with March.

Marriages decreased in March, but increased slightly for the 3- and 12-month periods ending with March.

Dissolutions of marriage decreased slightly for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with March, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 1.82 to 1.85.

Infant deaths decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with March, the infant death rate decreased from 7.4 to 6.8 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR MARCH 2009

<u>Item</u>	<u>March</u>				<u>Jan.-Mar. Cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with March</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Live Births	6,725	6,495	13.4	12.1	19,911	18,667	13.5	12.7	82,127	79,700	13.9	13.9	13.5
Deaths	5,589	4,613	11.2	8.6	16,321	13,850	11.1	9.4	55,763	53,807	9.3	9.5	9.1
Natural increase	1,136	1,882	2.3	3.5	3,590	4,817	2.4	3.3	26,364	25,893	4.6	4.5	4.4
Marriages	2,546	2,460	5.1	4.6	6,204	6,401	4.2	4.4	40,237	40,322	6.9	6.8	6.8
Dissolutions	1,801	1,773	3.6	3.3	5,059	4,965	3.6	3.4	22,062	21,850	3.8	3.7	3.7
Infant deaths	46	37	6.8	5.7	158	114	7.9	6.1	609	539	7.5	7.4	6.8
Population base (in thousands)	....	....	5,912	5,952	....	....	5,912	5,952	....	....	5,847	5,888	5,922

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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